

Message Text

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ACTION OES-02

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LIMDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PARM, JA, CA

SUBJ: JAPAN-CANADA SAFEGUARDS RELATIONSHIP

FOR OES AND ACDA

1. IN WHAT WAS NOMINALLY COURTESY CALL, SCICOUNS MET WITH HIROHIKO OTSUKA, DEPUTY DIRECTOR-GENERAL, UN BUREAU FONOFF, ON 7/2. OTSUKA, FORMER LEGAL DIRECTOR OF IAEA SECRETARIAT, HAS BEEN IN PRESENT POST ONLY SHORT TIME AND WAS MEMBER OF JAPAN DELEGATION TO LONDON NUCLEAR SUPPLIER TALKS.

2. OTSUKA INFORMED EMBOFF IN CONFIDENCE THAT DURING JAPAN-CANADA MINISTERIAL CONFERENCE HELD IN TOKYO LAST WEEK, JAPANESE SIDE WAS STARTLED WHEN CANADIANS PRESENTED PARAGRAPH IN DRAFT JOINT COMMUNIQUE LATE ON LAST DAY OF CONFERENCE WHICH STATED THAT JAPAN AND CANADA WERE TO RENEGOTIATE "BILATERAL" NUCLEAR SAFEGUARDS AGREEMENT. FONOFF REJECTED WORDING ON BASIS THAT SUBJECT HAS NOT ARISEN DURING MINISTERIAL CONFERENCE AND THAT WORDING WAS INACCURATE SINCE THERE ARE ONLY GOC-GOJ BILATERAL NUCLEAR AGREEMENT FOR COOPERATION AND GOC-GOJ-IAEA TRILATERAL SAFEGUARDS AGREEMENT. COMPROMISE WORDING WAS REACHED TO EFFECT THAT TWO COUNTRIES WOULD HOLD DISCUSSION IN FUTURE ON WAYS OF ESTABLISHING MORE EFFECTIVE SAFEGUARDS.

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3. OTSUKA EXPRESSED MYSTIFICATION AS TO WHY CANADIANS HAD TRIED THIS PLOY AND WAS DISTURBED OVER INEPTNESS OF WAY IT WAS HANDLED. IN RESPONSE TO INQUIRY, HE SAID THAT AS FAR AS HE KNEW, NO MEMBER OF CANADIAN DELEGATION WAS INVOLVED IWHT SAFE-GUARDS, BUT THAT HE WOULD HAVE TO CHECK FURTHER. HE NOTED THAT TRILATERAL SAFEGUARDS AGREEMENT COULD NOT BE RENEGOTIATED WITHOUT IAEA INVOLVEMENT AND APPROVAL, AND ASKED EMBOFF IF LATTER COULD SHED LIGHT ON REASON FOR CANADIAN ACTION AND WHETHER IT SIGNALLED THE START OF ATTEMPTS BY SUPPLIER NATIONS, (IN PARTICULAR, THE U.S.) TO INSTITUTE MORE STRINGENT SAFEGUARDS OR PHYSICAL SECURITY ARRANGEMENTS WITH JAPAN IN VIEW OF FAILURE OF DIET TO RATIFY NPT. HE MENTIONED SPECIFICALLY THAT HE WAS FAMILIAR WITH CANADIAN AND U.S. DESIRE TO IMPOSE SAFEGUARDS ON ENTIRE FUEL CYCLE IN THOSE COUNTRIES NOT PARTY TO NPT. EMBOFF RESPONDED THAT HE WAS OUT OF TOUCH WITH RECENT DEVELOPMENTS IN THIS FIELD, HAVING BEEN AWAY FROM WASHINGTON FOR TWO MONTHS, AND THAT ONLY APPROACH IN THIS GENERAL RESPECT THAT HAD BEEN MADE BY USG WAS RECENT VISIT OF ERDA SECURITY OFFICIALS TO JAPAN TO REVIEW PHYSICAL SECURITY MEASURE IN EFFECT SO THAT SHIPMENTS OF SIGNIFICANT QUANTITIES OF PU AND HEU COULD BE MADE BY US TO JAPAN IN ACCORDANCE WITH NRC REGULATIONS. EMBOFF WENT ON TO SAY THAT THIS WAS US EXPORT LICENSE MATTER, NOT ACTION LEADING TO REVISION OF US-GOJ AGREEMENT FOR COOPERATION. THIS ALSO TOOK OTSUKA BY SURPRISE, AND EMBOFF EXPLAINED THAT VISIT HAD BEEN MADE WITH FULL KNOWLEDGE AND COOPERATION OF ATOMIC ENERGY BUREAU.

4. OTSUKA SAID HE HAD NO OBJECTION TO EMBOFF'S INFORMING WASHINGTON OF DISCUSSION AND TO SEEKING INFORMATION ON CANADIAN MATTER. HE STIPULATED, HOWEVER, THAT HE DID NOT WANT USG TO TALK TO CANADIANS. HE PLANS TO APPROACH CANADIANS DIRECTLY.

5. COMMENT: OTSUKA'S OBVIOUSLY EXCELLENT BACKGROUND IN SAFE-GUARDS MATTERS MAKES HIM KEY OFFICIAL IN GOJ AND FONOFF IS USING HIM AS ADVISER ON THESE MATTERS. EMBASSY WOULD APPRECIATE RECEIVING ANY INFO AVAILABLE IN WASHINGTON WHICH WOULD BE USEFUL FOR BACKGROUND ON SUBJECT RAISED ABOVE OR WHICH COULD BE PASSED ON TO OTSUKA.

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